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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE APR 01 2006

Application Number	10/827117	Docket Number	NEXTIO.0402
Filed	04/19/04	Group Art Unit	2111
Examiner	GOPAL C. RAY	Customer No.	23669
Application Title	SWITCHING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING SHARED I/O WITHIN A LOAD-STORE FABRIC		
First Named Inventor	CHRISTOPHER J. PETTEY		

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

To: Commissioner for Patents - Central Fax Number
Fax Number: 571-273-8300

From: HUFFMAN PATENT GROUP, LLC
Fax Number: (661) 460-1986

Pages: 3 (including this cover sheet)

Dear Sir:

Please accept the attached correspondence for the above-identified matter. I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8 that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date of signature shown below.

Respectfully submitted,
HUFFMAN PATENT GROUP, LLC

/ Richard K. Huffman /

By: _____

RICHARD K. HUFFMAN, P.E.
Registration No. 41,082
Tel: (719) 575-9998

04/01/2006

Date: _____

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RESPONSE A – ELECTION OF CLAIMS
RESPONSIVE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

VIA FACSIMILE: 571-273-8300

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action of 03/14/2006, with a shortened statutory period of response set to expire 04/14/2006, Applicant responds as follows:

Claims 1-32 are presented in the above referenced patent application. The Examiner drew a two-way restriction:

- I. Claims 1-11 and 12-21 are drawn to a switching apparatus for sharing input/output endpoints and to a shared input/output (I/O) switching mechanism, respectively. The Examiner noted that both sets of claims are classified in Class 710, Subclass 317.
- II. Claims 22-32 are drawn to a method for interconnecting independent operating system domains to a shared I/O endpoint classified in Class 370, Subclass 392.

Application No. 10/827117 (Docket: NEXTIO.0402)
Response A - Election of Claims dated 04/01/2006
Reply to Office Action of 03/14/2006

Applicant hereby elects to proceed with Invention I, claims 1-21, for examination. Please cancel claims 22-32 without prejudice. Applicant will be filing a continuation (divisional) application corresponding to Invention II.

In view of the above remarks and cancellation of claims 22-32, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance. Allowance of the claims is solicited.

Applicant earnestly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this amendment, the application, or allowance of any claims thereof.

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Respectfully submitted,
HUFFMAN PATENT GROUP, LLC

/ Richard K. Huffman /

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